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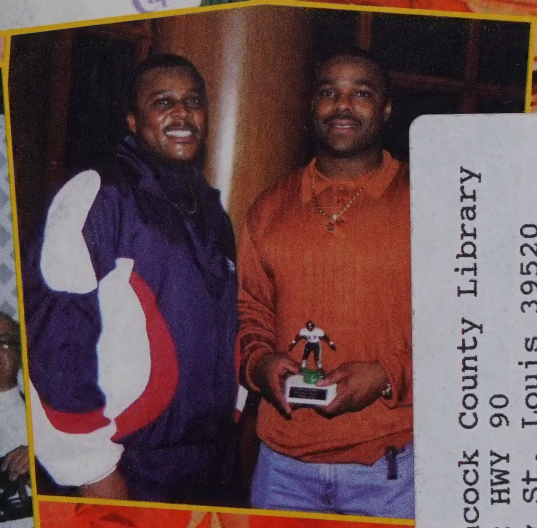

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Mrs. Geraldine Lang Honored

Mississippians in the National Football League

Stevon Moore Has Staying Power in the NFL

Review: The Hughleys

Thank You!

From All of Us at

MISSISSIPPI *Star*

Thanks to everyone who played a part in making the Mississippi Star 2nd Anniversary Awards and Recognition Banquet a huge success.

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MISSISSIPPI Star

VOL. 3 NO. 2 OCTOBER 1998

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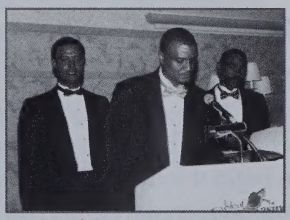

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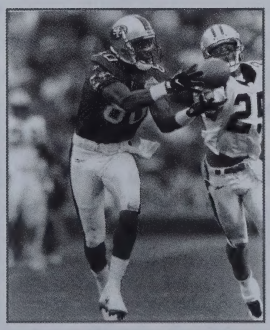

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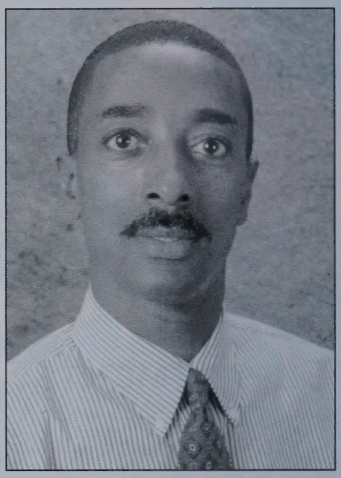


Thanks! This is the only way I know to begin this month. Thanks for all of your support during the past two years. I understand that this is not the November Issue and it's not Thanksgiving time, but it's important that I say thanks to everyone who has been supportive of Mississippi Star.

The 2nd anniversary banquet was a huge success. To those of you who were able to attend, I extend a sincere thanks for your participation and for making this event so upbeat, positive and so full of energy. Based on the feedback we have received from those of you who attended the banquet - both business owners and subscribers - we will begin planning a third anniversary banquet.

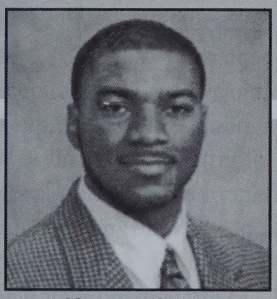
This issue includes some of the photographs taken at the banquet. A special thanks to Russell Fairconnetue and Jimmy Loiacano for capturing this special moment on film which will certainly provide enjoyable memories for years to come.

The night after our second anniversary banquet, citizens of Bay St. Louis and the Gulf Coast paid tribute with a special celebration to a dynamic lady who has spent her life fighting for causes that benefit the poor and disadvantaged. The contributions of Mrs. Geraldine Lang of Bay St. Louis are put into perspective in an essay by Ms. Clementine Williams in this issue.

This issue also includes the annual Mississippians in the National Football League feature. I have been told this makes for a good reference piece on Sundays while football games are on the television. To be a relatively small state, Mississippi certainly produces a considerable amount of professional-quality football players. At the present time there are fifty-seven players and two assistant coaches in the league. In other words, approximately one thirtieth of NFL players either played high school or college football, or both, in the state of Mississippi.

Enjoy!

We Put People First On And Off The Field

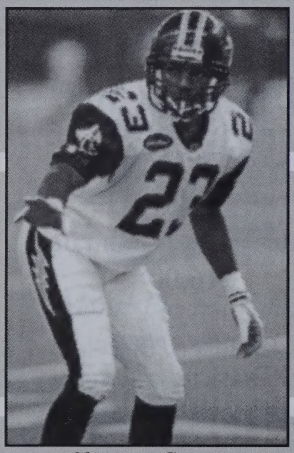


Shannon Garrett
Loan Officer
The People's Bank

Six months out of the year Shannon Garrett is a loan officer at our Gulfport Branch. The other six months he is a defensive back for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

At the Peoples Bank, we have been putting people first for 100 years. In Shannon's case that means holding his job for him while he plays football in Canada each year.

The next time you're in our Gulfport Branch, be sure to say hi to Shannon and wish him luck in the upcoming season!



Shannon Garrett
Defensive Back
Winnipeg Blue Bombers

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Letters

Dear Maurice,

Congratulations on your 2nd Year Anniversary!

I attended your 2nd Anniversary Recognition and Awards Banquet on September 24, 1998, and I reeally enjoyed myself. *Mississippi Star* is such a positive magazine and also a great informer of the events in our community. I enjoy reading each issue and I look forward to receiving the next issue.

I wish you and your wife much success in the years to come, and I look forward to attending your 3rd Anniversary Recognition and Awards Banquet!

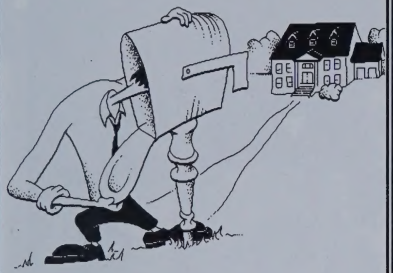
Keep up the good work.

Deborah Hardy
Gulfport, MS

Dear Maurice,

Sincere thanks again for affording us the opportunity to be published in the *Mississippi Star.* We truly appreciated the awards presented to us. Best o fluck with all your endeavors! Ruth and I believe that you have the potential to attain your highest aspirations. The banquet guest speaker and ambiance were all enjoyable.

H. Enid Agee
Long Beach, MS



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Letters to the Publisher

should be 100 words or less.

Star Calendar: Events of interest to South Mississippians should be submitted on your organization's letterhead, specifying the date, time, place of event and a number of contact. Submissions should be received by the twentieth day of the preceding month. Be sure to include a daytime telephone number.

Mail submissions to

Mississippi Star, P.O. Box 2651, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521.

Mississippi Star reserves the right to refuse or decline to publish any submission.

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The Hughleys

by Maurice E. Singleton, Jr.

One of the new hit television shows of the fall season is ABC's The Hughleys. The show features the comedic talents of D.L. Hughley as Darryl Hughley, a successful businessman, father and husband. The family moves to the suburbs where everybody in the family adapts pretty quickly; all but Darryl, that is. His son and daughter enjoy their new school; his wife has already befriended one of the women in the neighborhood.

Darryl is a man who does not adapt to change quite so quickly. He can also be tough to live with. It is up to his wife, Yvonne, played by Elise Neal, to help Darryl deal with his transition to Suburbia. The storyline is similar to that of the 1970's hit TV sitcom, The Jeffersons but with young children and certainly with a '90's theme.

Darryl is living the American dream but is distrusting of it. The Hughleys is real in that the transitional experience is real. But it is quite funny. Darryl is hilarious! He is hilarious because many of us can relate.

You'll laugh for some of the same reasons you laughed at the lines in Good Times and The Jeffersons. But you will also laugh because D.L. Hughley is just plain funny. He is a crafty, quick comic who knows how to deliver a laugh.

Ashley Monique Clark plays Sydney Hughley (daughter) and Dee Jay Daniels plays their son Michael. John Henton of Living Single plays Darryl's friend Milsap; and Alan Kramer and Marietta DePrima are the neighbors, Dave and Sally Rogers.

The Hughleys can be seen on WLOX-TV 13 on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

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WENDY'S

The Rainbow of Races

Stacey James Mackey

I recently caught a cable TV show about the Gulf Coast Reconciliation Choir. The organization is a group of multi-racial Christians who have come together to sing. The program featured an African-American choir director who had been blessed with her first opportunity to work with White vocalists. Highlighted also was an interview with a White and an African-American couple. The four were beginning to socialize with one another outside of rehearsals and it seemed to be an eye-opening experience. The White couple commented on how a topic such as racism didn't cross their minds as it did during the lives of their counterparts. Despite cultural differences, the couples found out that they had much in common, especially their love of God.

This made me smile. I found joy in this because I have not encountered many churches along the coast that have truly embraced diversity among their congregations. When guest of other ethnicities visit our churches we welcome them with open arms, but how many churches actively pursue a mission of reaching out to other cultures.

I observed my husband's gentle manner in ministering to others and I admire his gift of being able to befriend anyone. When my husband announced his calling to preach, we often discussed the probability of him being involved in a church whose congregation would span many races. It is now interesting to see how God is slowly developing this vision in our lives. History and hate have kept the races from worshipping together, however, in today's world with increased levels of tolerance, more people should be in service together.

In 1 Corinthians 1:10, the apostle Paul appeals for harmony among All believers. "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgement."

God made his children to resemble the rainbow, so fellowship with different colors. "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and the household of God," Ephesians 2:19. I hope I've given you something to pray about.

Something to Pray About

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What should I do?
Perform monthly self-examinations, and make sure your doctor gives you a breast examination once a year. Mammography can detect breast cancer up to two years before you or your doctor can feel a lump. So, once you turn 40, have a mammogram every year.

For more information or a physician referral call:
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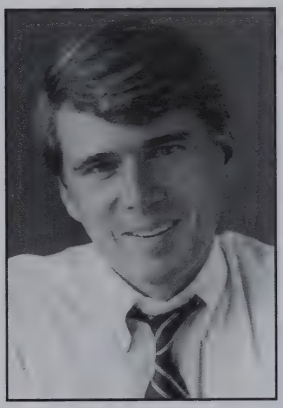

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Reflecting on the Work of "Ms. Geri"

by Clementine Williams

"Ms. Geri" is honored for years of diligent community service.
(Jimmy Loiacano, photographer)

Have you ever dreamed of a world not only better for yourself but for generations to come? A world where character and ability matter, not color or gender. There are women in this world who acted on those dreams and they changed our world.

There is one particular woman I know who lives that dream everyday. She hasn't changed the world, but she has been the instrument of change in a small portion of the world - Hancock County.

Geraldine Lang (Ms. Geri) has a deep thirst for continuous knowledge and a burning desire to help others. Born in Amite, Louisiana, Ms. Geri moved to New Orleans around 1932. While there she visited Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. On one of her visits she met her future husband, Jimmy Lang. They married in 1941 and settled in Bay St. Louis.

Ms. Geri's had a strong desire to complete her education and after raising her four children, she obtained her General Equivalency Diploma.

During the late sixties and early seventies, Ms. Geri began to organize and mobilize citizens, advocating changes helpful to the young, poor, elderly and minorities. She was and still is the conscience of many community leaders, friends and acquaintances. When she calls for assistance, she will not take no for an answer - she persists, resists, antagonizes and even begs to get her projects up and going.

I have known Ms. Geri all my life. However, it was in the late seventies when she started recruiting me. That's when I realized how special and unique she is. After finishing college, I worked away from the coast for several years.

During the time away, I became familiar with the tribulations of another very special lady, Fannie Lou Hamer. Mrs. Hamer lived in the delta region of Mississippi from 1917 until her death of cancer in 1979. Her family labored as sharecroppers for the white landowners and received pittance in return.

In 1962, Mrs. Hamer began on a road that would lead to harassment, death threats, beatings, and became the target of

white fury. Fannie Lou decided she was going to exercise her right to vote. Through much humiliation and suffering, Mrs. Hamer finally became a registered voter in 1963. It was through her strong determination and sacrifices that several hundred people registered to vote.

From that day on Mrs. Hamer had become an activist in the civil rights movement, devoting her life to being her brother's keeper. She worked untiringly for the black and poor families of the delta. She was determined for blacks to vote and obtain equal and fair representation in Mississippi.

The highlight of Fannie Lou's life occurred at the 1969 commencement services at Atlanta's Morehouse College, the alma mater of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mrs. Hamer received an honorary award for her services to the many oppressed people of Mississippi. She became one of my favorite role models.

I see many parallels of Mr. Geri's life to that of Mrs. Hamer. In the late seventies, Ms. Geri was full of vigor and tenacity. At that time she was involved in a study of Bay St. Louis' gas company's rate structure. This study led to an overhaul of the gas rates in Bay St. Louis which benefitted many of the citizens.

Ms. Geri spearheaded community projects such as, Am I My Brother's Keeper?, Unity, Concerned Citizens of Hancock County, Hancock County Community Task Force to Save Our Children and the Coastal Family Health Center. As Mrs. Hamer was her brother's keeper, so is Ms. Geri.

She is a determined little lady who has involved me in many of her projects. Many days I wanted to tell her, "No Ma'm; I'm busy," but then I would feel guilty and hasten to do her bidding. She has "that way" about her. I am constantly amazed at how involved she still is. Poor health does not deter her. One of her favorite quotes is, "The more I'm involved, the less I pay attention to my health problems." Her stamina and positiveness are exciting to see and a powerful example for all womanhood.

Ms. Geri has had little formal education and her speech isn't perfect, but she is a natural leader with the capacity to guide and inspire her fellow human beings. She also has the ability to awaken in all of us her own yearning for respect, dignity and equality.

The community recently paid tribute to Ms. Geri for her noble example of black womanhood and her strong defense of human dignity for the young, the poor, the elderly and minorities.

The parallels to Mrs. Hamer continue. Ms. Geri is a favorite role model of mine.

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Mississippi Star

2nd Anniversary

BANQUET CELEBRATION

Anthony Montgomery recognized for his January 1998 cover photography by Joe Monti of Monti Electric.

Bay St. Louis City Council Person Connie Lampley presents recognition award to Rev. Bobbie Hays for her article My Present View of the Bible.

Bruce Northridge, author of Families and the Environment, April 1998, receives award from Basil Kennedy of Union Planters Bank.

Dr. Roy L. Irons of Gulf Coast Dental Center presents award to January 1998 Guest Word contributor, Tania Saucier.

Joe Monti presents award to Eugene Allen, brother of George Allen, Jr,. author of Do You Need a Computer.

Stacy James Mackey accepts award from Eleanor Rogers, founder of Quality Home Health Care of the Gulf Coast.

Ollie Oliver of Designer Touch Florist presents recognition award to Jeannie Deen for her article Saving Money: Pay Yourself First.

Jimmy Loiacano receives recognition award from Dr. Roy L. Irons of Gulf Coast Dental Center.

Kathy Springer of Gulf Coast Medical Center presents award to Joseph Pearson for his Guest Word contribution in July 1998 issue.

Kathleen Monti of Monti Electric recognizes Rev. Bobbie Hays for her article The Village Works.

Master of Ceremony Nathaniel Fairconnetue (center) flanked by awards presentation moderators Lonnie Bradley (left) and Myron Labat, Sr.

Harrison County Supervisor Robin Alfred Midcalf, Esq. recognizes Mrs. Lucimarian Roberts for May 1998 Guest Word contribution, Celebrate Your Journey.

Bay St. Louis City Councilman James Thriffiley, III presents recognition award to Chari Lee for Guest Word contribution in Premier Issue.

Union Planters President Basil Kennedy presenting award to Clementine Williams for her article Local African Americans Remembered.

The Peoples Bank vice president Jeannie Deen recognizes Calvin and Herta Smith of Carrollton, Texas for their article African American Families and Adoption.

Gwen H. Lawyer receives recognition award from Susan Stoufflet and her daughter Laura of S & L Office Supply.

Robin Alfred Midcalf, Esq. is recognized by Kathleen Monti of Monti Electric for her article Flashing Lights in the November 1998 issue.

Jacqueline Martin of Gulfport Factory Shops presents award to Judy Whitfield for her article Seven Sisters Working Together.

Larry Jones recognized for his book review of Earl Graves book, How to Succeed in Business Without Being White by Joan Walley.

Rip Daniels (far right) of radio station WJZD 94.5 and president of the Mississippi Coast Association of Black Journalists made special presentation to the family of the slain civil rights and voting rights advocate, Vernon Dahmer, Sr.

Singleton is joined by tennis buddies, Dr. Bert Keel, Frank Henry and Jimmy Loiacano.

Bay St. Louis City Councilman James Thriffiley, III recognizes his former student Eric Labat for his book review of North Pole Legacy: Black, White and Eskimo.

Ruth W. Johnson recognized for her poem My Carribean Lullaby by Maurice Singleton.

Susan Stoufflet and her daughter Laura of S & L Office Supply present recognition award to Dr. Lance Barnes for his article Men's Health in 1998.

Jacqueline Martin of Gulfport Factory Shops recognizes Tracy Joseph for her People Profile in the December 1996 issue.

Singleton unveils cover of Anniversary Issue featuring his parents, Georgia and Maurice Singleton.

Drew Allen of Allen Beverages recognizes Stacy James Mackey for her column Something To Pray About.

Russell Fairconnetue being recognized for his class reunion photo spread in August 1997 issue by Joan Walley.

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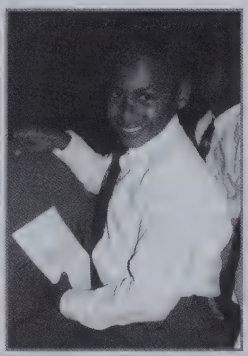
Vonretta Singleton receives bouquet of roses as Fr. "T" looks on.

Tania Saucier (center) with Maurice and Vonretta Singleton.

Singleton presents banquet sponsorship placque to David Hughes, Senior Vice President of The Peoples Bank.



Marquez Singleton, Maurice and Vonretta Singleton's son, and Chaz Singleton, nephew, enjoying the banquet and thinking about their futures.

Banquet speaker William W. Martin, Robin Alfred Midcalf, Esq. and Fr. A. Francis Theriault, S.V.D.

Sherry Hill and Alfriza Acker work up a standing ovation for their rendition of the theme from Alladin.

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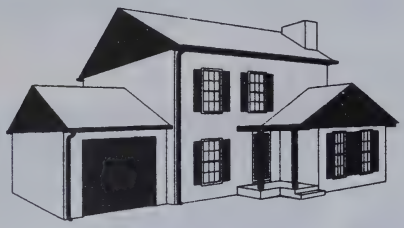

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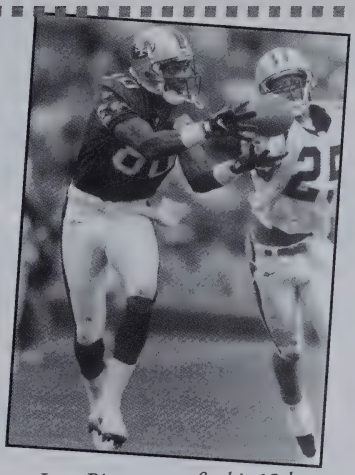
Mississippians in the National Football League

by Maurice E. Singleton, Jr.



Jerry Rice returns for his 13th NFL season after missing most of last season because of a knee injury and surgery.

Mississippi can be proud of its representation of players in the National Football League this season. Fifty-seven players and two coaches are currently on NFL rosters. The American Football Conference leads the way with thirty-three players who either played high school or college football in Mississippi. The National Football Conference has twenty-four players and two assistant coaches on its rosters.

The Miami Dolphins roster boasts a total of five players with ties to Mississippi. The Buffalo Bills, Pittsburgh Steelers, Green Bay Packers and Arizona Cardinals each has four active Mississippi players on their rosters, followed by Denver, Jacksonville, Chicago, Minnesota, St. Louis and San Francisco with 3 each. Six teams have two players from the state.

The University of Mississippi leads the way with twelve former players currently on NFL rosters, followed by USM with ten, Mississippi State University with eight, Jackson State University with seven, Alcorn with 3 and Mississippi Valley State University with two former players currently on NFL rosters. Thirteen of of the fifty-seven players played college football at a college or university outside of Mississippi.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

BALTIMORE RAVENS

MICHAEL JACKSON * 81
Wide Receiver
6' 4", 195 pounds
NFL Experience: 8th year
College: Southern Mississippi

STEVON MOORE #27
Strong Safety
5' 11", 210 pounds
NFL Experience: 8th year
College: Mississippi
Hometown: Wiggins, MS

BUFFALO BILLS

ERIC MOULDS #80
Wide receiver
6', 204 pounds
NFL Experience: 3rd year
College: Mississippi State
Hometown: Lucedale, MS

MARLO PERRY #58
Linebacker
6' 4", 250 pounds
NFL Experience: 4th year
College: Jackson State

ROBERT HICKS #77
Tackle
6'7", 338 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Mississippi State

MARCUS SPRIGGS #69
Guard
6'3", 295 pounds
NFL Experience: 2nd year
College: Houston

CINCINNATI BENGALS

ASHLEY AMBROSE #33
Cornerback
5' 10", 185 pounds
NFL Experience: 7th year
Mississippi Valley State
Hometown: New Orleans, LA

DENVER BRONCOS

WILLIE GREEN #85
Wide Receiver
6' 4", 188 pounds
NFL Experience
College: Mississippi
Hometown: Athens, GA

ERIC BROWN #26
Safety
6'1", 210 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Mississippi State

NATE WAYNE #54
Linebacker
6', 230 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Mississippi

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

TORRANCE SMALL #87
Wide Receiver
6' 3", 209 pounds
NFL Experience: 7th year
College: Alcorn State
Hometown:

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

KELVIN PRITCHETT #94
Defensive Tackle
6' 3", 300 pounds
NFL Experience: 8th year
College: Mississippi
Hometown: Atlanta, GA

JIMMY SMITH #82
Wide Receiver/Kick Returner
6' 1", 204 pounds
NFL Experience: 6th year
College: Jackson State
Hometown: Jackson, MS

FERNANDO SMITH #96
Defensive End
6'6", 278 pounds
NFL Experience: 5th year
College Jackson State

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

JOE HORN
Wide Receiver
6' 1", 199 pounds
NFL Experience: 3rd year
Itawamba Junior College
Fayetteville, NC

GREG FAVORS #54
Linebacker
6'1", 236 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Mississippi State

MIAMI DOLPHINS

JOHN AVERY #20
Running Back
5'9", 190 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Mississippi

TIM BOWENS #95
Defensive Tackle
6' 4", 315 pounds
NFL Experience: 5th year
Mississippi
Hometown: Okolona, MS

TERRELL BUCKLEY #27
Cornerback
5' 9", 180 pounds
NFL Experience: 7th year
Florida State
Hometown: Pascagoula, MS

BRENT SMITH #74
Tackle
6' 5", 305 pounds
NFL Experience: 1st year
Mississippi State

PATRICK SURTAIN #23
Cornerback
5'11", 197 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Southern Mississippi

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

HAROLD SHAW #44
Running Back
6', 238 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Southern Mississippi

LARRY WHIGHAM #25
Safety
6' 2", 205 pounds
NFL Experience: 5th year
College: N.E. Louisiana
Hometown: Hattiesburg, MS

NEW YORK JETS

BOBBY HAMILTON #92
Defensive End
6' 5", 280 pounds
NFL Experience: 3rd year
Southern Mississippi
Hometown: Columbia, MS

OAKLAND RAIDERS

PERRY CARTER #20
Cornerback
6', 190 pounds
NFL Experience: 4th year
College: Southern Mississippi
Hometown: McComb, MS

RICHARD HARVEY #52
Linebacker
6' 1", 245 pounds
NFL Experience: 8th year
College: Tulane
Hometown: Pascagoula, MS

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

KEVIN HENRY #76
Defensive End
6' 4", 282 pounds
NFL Experience: 6th year
College: Mississippi State
Hometown: Mound Bayou, MS

FRED MCAFEE #25
Running Back
5' 10", 197 pounds
NFL Experience: 8th year
College: Mississippi College
Hometown: Philadelphia, MS

CARLOS EMMONS #51
Linebacker
5' 10", 250 pounds
NFL Experience: 2nd year
College: Arkansas State
Hometown: Greenwood, MS

DESHEA TOWNSEND #26
Cornerback
5'10", 175 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Alabama

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

NORMAN HAND #96
Defensive Tackle
6' 3", 313 pounds
NFL Experience: 3rd year
College: Mississippi
Hometown: Walterboro, SC

TENNESSEE OILERS

STEVE MCNAIR
Quarterback
6' 2", 224 pounds
NFL Experience: 3rd year
Alcorn State
Hometown: Mount Olive, MS

PERRY PHENIX
Safety
5'11", 210 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Southern Mississippi

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FRED BROCK #89
Wide Receiver
5' 11", 181 pounds
NFL Experience: 2nd year
College: Southern Mississippi

MARK SMITH #93
Defensive Tackle
6' 4", 290 pounds
NFL Experience: 2nd year
College: Auburn
Hometown: Vicksburg, MS

TERRY HARDY #80
Tight End
6'4", 266 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Southern Mississippi

LESTER HOLMES #71
Guard
6' 4", 315 pounds
NFL Experience: 5th year
College: Jackson State
Hometown: Tylertown, MS

CAROLINA PANTHERS

KRIS MANGUM #86
Tight End
6' 4", 249 pounds
NFL Experience: 1st year
College: Mississippi
Hometown: Magee, MS

SHANE MATTHEWS #9
Quarterback
6' 3", 196 pounds
NFL Experience: 2nd year
College: Florida
Hometown: Pascagoula, MS

WESLEY WALLS #85
Tight End
6' 5", 250 pounds
NFL Experience: 9th year
College: Mississippi
Hometown: Pontotoc, MS

CHICAGO BEARS

WALT HARRIS #27
Cornerback
6', 194 pounds
NFL Experience: 3rd year
College: Mississippi State
Hometown: LaGrange, GA

JOHN THIERRY #91
Defensive End
6' 4", 265 pounds
NFL Experience: 5th year
College: Alcorn State
Hometown: Opelousas, LA

Chicago Bears Continued on Page 26...

CHICAGO BEARS *Continued...*

JOHN MANGUM #26
Safety
5' 10:, 190 pounds
NFL Experience: 9th year
College: Alabama
Hometown: Magee, MS

GREEN BAY PACKERS

BRETT FAVRE #4
Quarterback
6' 2", 225 pounds
NFL Experience: 8th year
Southern Mississippi
Hometown: Kiln, MS

COREY BRADFORD #85
Wide Receiver
6'1", 197 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Jackson State

ROELL PRESTON #88
Wide Receiver
5'10", 195 pounds
NFL Experience: 3rd year
College: Mississippi

JURAN BOLDEN #43
Cornerback
6' 2", 201 pounds
NFL Experience: 3rd year
Mississippi Delta Community College
Hometown: Tampa, FL

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

ORLANDO BOBO #74
Guard
6' 3", 304 pounds
NFL Experience: 2nd year
Northeast Louisiana
Hometown: West Point, MS

EVERETT LINDSAY #61
Guard/Center
6' 4", 290 pounds
NFL Experience: 4th year
College: Mississippi

DWAYNE RUDD #57
Linebacker
6' 2", 241 pounds
NFL Experience: 2nd year
College: Alabama
Hometown: Batesville, MS

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

HAROLD JACKSON
Receivers Coach
NFL Experience: 25th year
College: Jackson State
Hometown: Hattiesburg, MS

NEW YORK GIANTS

TOBY MYLES #70
Tackle
6' 4", 310 pounds
NFL Experience: Rookie
College: Jackson State

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

RUSSELL COPELAND #86
Wide Receiver
6', 200 pounds
NFL Experience: 6th year
College: Memphis State
Hometown: Tupelo, MS

ST. LOUIS RAMS

TYJI ARMSTRONG #89
Tight End
6' 4", 250 pounds
NFL Experience: 6th year
College: Mississippi

DEXTER MCCLEON #21
Cornerback
5' 10", 200 pounds
NFL Experience: 2nd year
College: Clemson
Hometown: Meridian, MS

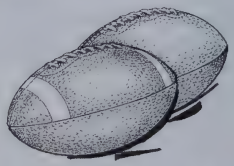
WILBERT MONTGOMERY
Running Backs Coach
NFL Experience: 11th year
Abilene Christian
Hometown: Greenville, MS

SAN FRANCISCO FORTY-NINERS

JEFF POSEY #96
Defensive End
6'5", 223 pounds
NFL Experience: 1st year
College: Southern Mississippi

JERRY RICE #80
Wide Receiver
6' 2", 200 pounds
NFL Experience: 13th year
Mississippi Valley State
Hometown: Crawford, MS

JAMES WILLIAMS #53
Linebacker
6', 245 pounds
NFL Experience: 8th year
Mississippi State
Hometown: Natchez, MS



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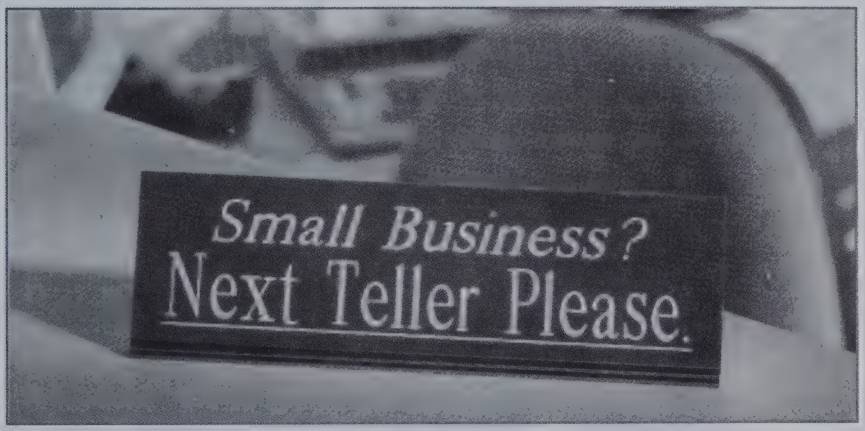

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Stevon Moore Up Close

His Faith, Family, Football and Future.

by Anthony Montgomery

Baltimore Ravens' safety Stevon Moore holds football player replica of himself presented to him by former University of Mississippi teammates.

Stevon Moore calls Wiggins, Mississippi home. Since his early days on the campus of the University of Mississippi, Stevon has always carried the nickname "Stone County." The players jokingly referred to him as "Wiggins most heralded sports figure." After the City of Wiggins named a street after him, we can see that his teammates may have been correct. Stevon is proud to represent Wiggins, Mississippi in the NFL.

Stevon grew up attending Welcome Hill Baptist Church in Wiggins, He attributes all of his success to God. He feels blessed that God has chosen him to be a professional athlete and role model. "That's one of the driving forces for me," said Moore. "Being a positive influence to others who look to me as their role model; I don't want to let anyone down."

Stevon's biggest challenge in life is never to fail at anything. He enjoys attending different church services with his family. They also frequently visit the United Methodist Church of McHenry, where his wife Jondena grew up. "I give all praises to God. I just feel blessed that he chose me out of all the athletes out there to enjoy a successful career in the league. I really feel

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blessed."

Stevon and Jondena have two sons, Darrmal and Malik. "They are what makes playing and dealing with the stress of the league worthwhile. Coming home to them, and the boys greeting me at the door; I just forget about what type of day I had at practice."

The couple also own a home in Wiggins, so they frequently visit their families during the off season.. Stevon also uses the off season as family time, going on one-major family outing each off season, doing something with the boys, traveling and enjoying all activities that are outdoors.

Stevon's professional career began when he was drafted by the New York Jets in the seventh round. He was later traded to the Miami Dolphins and later signed as a free agent with the Cleveland Browns. The Cleveland team moved to Baltimore and in 1996 began their inaugural season as the Baltimore Ravens.

After ten seasons in the NFL, Stevon's most memorable one is the 1994 season with Cleveland. The Browns went 11-5 that year and earned a trip to the playoffs, finishing the year with the league's top rated defense. That's the year that Stevon and I both feel he should have made the Pro Bowl.

"The best thing about being in the NFL is it teaches me responsibility," said Moore. "Going out and being a team player and doing your job for the benefit of the team."

Stevon wants to pass on one piece of advice to everyone who looks to him as a role model: "Follow your dreams. Believe in yourself, and when others tell you, 'You can't...,' stay focused and believe your dreams will come true. Prove them wrong."

Stevon enjoys proving his doubters wrong. When I asked him who is his favorite team to play against, he said the Miami Dolphins. "Why?" I asked. "Because I felt that I should have started when I was there; and I didn't, largely due to backing up a local favorite."

His favorite player to play against is now his teammate, Eric Greene, a former Pittsburgh Steeler. "I enjoy practicing against Eric, He helps me to improve my level of play. I'm glad we're teammates now."

Stevon has enjoyed being a starter in the NFL, and he is at peace with his accomplishments. He feels that no matter what he accomplishes in life, there will always be more challenges.

Stevon's future after the NFL will be a busy one. He plans to open a chain of popular restaurants with several of his NFL buddies and hopes to locate one near Wiggins. He's also looking into several other business investments that will place demands on his time. "In the future, my main goal is to become a successful entrepreneur, as well as a respected citizen in the community, while helping others achieve their goals."

ABOUT THE WRITER:

Anthony Montgomery was a teammate of Stevon Moore while the two played football at the University of Mississippi. He is now employed as a manager as Hancock Bank.

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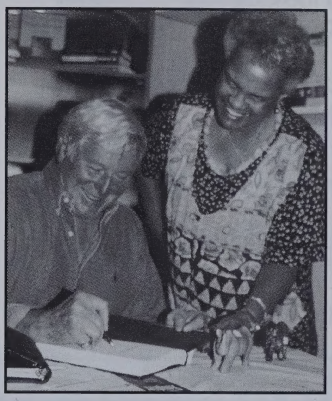
STUDENTS INFLUENCE ELEMENTARY KIDS

Monica Moore, Rasha McMillan and Alisha Brown play their trombone instruments before the elementary students.

The band performed to encourage younger students to join their school bands.

Ebony and Ivory Images Hosts The Slaughter Author



Carroll Case autographs a copy of *The Slaughter* for Betty Davis of Diamondhead at Ebony and Ivory Images book signing.

1000 WOMEN IN WHITE TO MARCH AT GULFSIDE ASSEMBLY

Bishop Leontine T.C. Kelly will be honored at the One Thousand Women in White Celebration at Gulfside Methodist Assembly in Waveland on Saturday, October 31, 1998. Women from all walks of life and religious denominations are invited to participate in the weekend of activities which will be highlighted by the Saturday evening service to include a march of women wearing white.

"Picture a large number of women marching to the beach, dressed in white, bearing candles and singing "Walk in the Light," said Mrs. Marian T. Martin, Excecutive Director of Gulfside. "This spiritual journey actually took place at a School of Christian Mission in the 1940's."

Rev. Cynthia Wilson-Felder, fresh from an October 11 performance at Carnegie Hall, "will bring the music."

During the day there will be several workshops on topics relative to women's issues: health, singles ministries and Global Praise with Children. Guests will also be invited to tour the Collins-Harvey-Thurman Listening Room.

Housing is available at Gulfside or at the Waveland Holiday Inn. For further information, please contact Shondel B. Dawson at 228-467-5252 between the hours of 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

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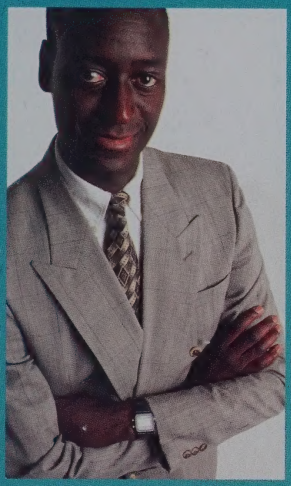

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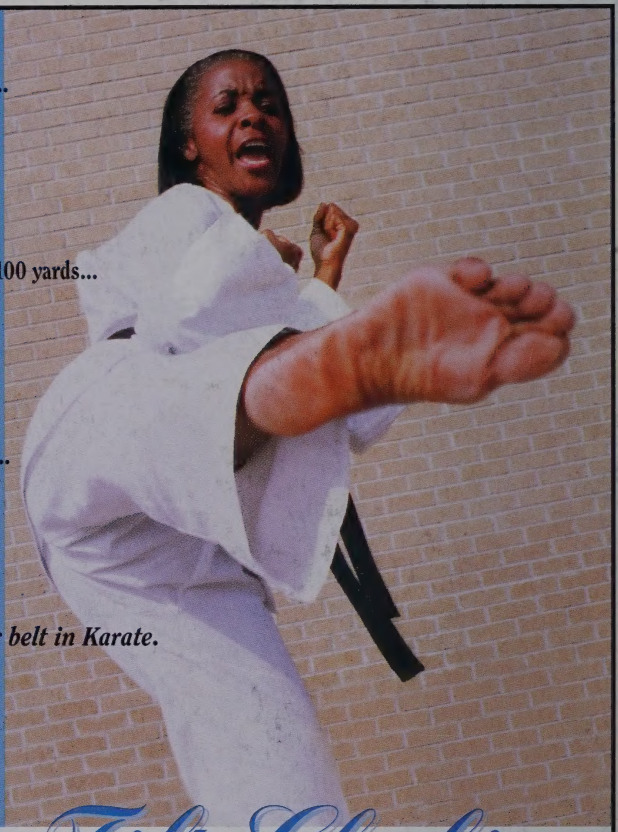

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